AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-8 and 25-37, and cancel claims 9-24 and 38-50, all as shown below. All pending claims are reproduced below, including those that remain unchanged.

1.   (Currently amended) A ~~memory~~ storage medium for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:

a data structure stored in said ~~memory~~ storage medium, the data structure including or referring to:

a name;

a content repository identifier;

a property;

a property definition; and

wherein the data structure is logically part of a virtual content repository (VCR), and wherein the VCR represents ~~at least~~ one or more content repository~~ies~~ logically as one single content repository from the application program's standpoint.

2.   (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ storage medium of claim 1 wherein the content repository identifier comprises:

a repository name; and

a content identifier that is unique for one of the one or more content repository~~ies~~.

3.   (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ storage medium of claim 1, further comprising:

a reference to a parent data structure.

4.   (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ storage medium of claim 1 wherein:

a property is an association between a name and at least one value; and

wherein the at least one value can be stored in one of the ~~at least~~ one or more content repository~~ies~~.

5.   (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ storage medium of claim 4 wherein:

the at least one value can be a text string, a number, an image, an audio/visual presentation, or binary data.

6. (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ storage medium of claim 1 wherein:
the property definition can specify at least one of the following for the property:

> property choices;
>
> a reference;
>
> a data type;
>
> whether the property is mandatory;
>
> whether the property is multi-valued;
>
> whether the property is primary;
>
> whether the property is read-only; and
>
> whether the property is restricted.

7. (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ storage medium of claim 1 wherein:
the data structure is hierarchically related to other data structures and the ~~at least~~ one or more content ~~repository~~ies.

8. (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ storage medium of claim 7 wherein:
the data structure is hierarchically inferior to the ~~at least~~ one or more content ~~repository~~ies.

9-24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently amended) A ~~memory~~ storage medium for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:

> a first object stored in the medium to provide a first group of services related to interacting with a hierarchical namespace;
>
> a second object stored in the medium to provide a second group of services related to associating information with the first object;

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a third object stored in the medium to provide a third group of services related to describing attributes of the second object;

wherein the first object is logically part of a virtual content repository (VCR), and wherein the VCR represents at least one or more content repositoryies logically as one single content repository from the application program's standpoint.

26.   (Currently amended) The memory storage medium of claim 25 wherein the first group of services comprises:

first functions that enable associating the first object with a location in the namespace.

27.   (Currently amended) The memory storage medium of claim 25 wherein the second group of services comprises:

second functions that enable creating, reading, updating and deleting the information.

28.   (Currently amended) The memory storage medium of claim 25 wherein the third group of services comprises:

third functions that enable specifying at least one of the following for the second object:

information choices;

a reference;

an information type;

whether the information is mandatory;

whether the information is multi-valued;

whether the information is primary;

whether the information is read-only; and

whether the information is restricted.

29.   (Currently amended) The memory storage medium of claim 25 further comprising:

a fourth object to specify a location of the first object in the namespace.

30.   (Currently amended) The memory storage medium of claim 29 wherein the fourth object includes:

a content repository name; and

a content identifier that is unique for <u>one of</u> the <u>one or more</u> content repositor~~y~~<u>ies</u>.

31.   (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ <u>storage medium</u> of claim 25 wherein the first object includes:

a reference to a parent object.

32.   (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ <u>storage medium</u> of claim 25, further comprising:

a fifth object to provide a fifth set of services related to searching the VCR~~,~~<u>.</u>

33.   (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ <u>storage medium</u> of claim 25 wherein:

the second object associates a name and at least one value; and

wherein the at least one value can be stored in one of the ~~at least~~ one <u>or more</u> content repositor~~y~~<u>ies</u>.

34.   (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ <u>storage medium</u> of claim 33 wherein:

the at least one value can be a text string, a number, an image, an audio/visual presentation, or binary data.

35.   (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ <u>storage medium</u> of claim 25 wherein:

the first object is hierarchically related to other objects and the ~~at least~~ one <u>or more</u> content repositor~~y~~<u>ies</u>.

36.   (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ <u>storage medium</u> of claim 25 wherein:

there is no second object.

37.   (Currently amended) The ~~memory~~ <u>storage medium</u> of claim 25, further comprising:

a sixth object to provide a sixth group of services related to configuring the VCR.

38-50. (Canceled).

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